



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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06/25/2013 Minutes

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
JUNE 25, 2013 MEETING (Approved 8/27/13)

RESERVOIR COMMITTEE
On site

In attendance: Lisa Fredman, Cathy Garnett, Martine Gougault, Jane Howard, Rachel James, Elizabeth Karpati, Michael Ratner, David White.

Facilitator: David White Minutes: Elizabeth Karpati

2013 meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, July 23, August 27, Sept. 29, Oct. 22, Nov. 27.

Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room.

1. The meeting was preceded by a picnic at 6:30 and followed by a tour of the habitat garden.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with one correction: the second workday date listed as "June" should be "July."
3. A schedule for watering the habitat garden during the summer (as needed) was set up.
4. Martine plans to add more native honeysuckles to it.
5. The kiosk was repaired by David and Stefan during the June 20 workday.
6. Also, knotweed was removed from the "island" by the parking lot on that day. This does not require permission from the Con Com if no poison is used. We need to be vigilant about cutting down any regrowth. Possibilities mentioned for replanting: wait a year, then use something colorful like Echinacea or Rudbeckia; or plant a few shrubs and mulch them heavily; or plant grass and keep mowing.
7. Rather than trying to produce a Res guide to invasives, it may be better just to create a list of some of the worst ones and give links to websites with good identification information.
8. David brought six small wooden boards on stakes to which identifying signs can be attached.
9. We noted that some additional interpretive signs, on the kiosk, would be useful.
10. Water chestnuts: A first round of harvesting has been done, but the weeds are spreading again. A second round is scheduled for August, possibly followed by hand harvesting for any stragglers.
11. Spreading woodchips will be a fall project. Jane will check when the cross-country team may be available to help.
12. We are tentatively planning a get-together in September, probably at David White's house. He will circulate suggestions for dates.
13. We admired the lush growth thanks to the recent rains in the habitat garden and installed David's stakes with ID pictures next to some of the plants in the garden.